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such a short but highly concentrated experience at Paris during the Peace Conference of 1919 (p. 244).

The book contains many passages of unusual clearness, expressiveness, and aptness. But the literary quality is somewhat disfigured by hasty editing, which occasionally leaves sentences unfinished or obscure (what for example is the meaning of "His (Mohammed's) loves were many-wived and many-wived were his loves" on page 108), and fails to standardize forms of words (as *Ananadoll* for *Anadoli* on page 159). Nor is the proofreading and spelling beyond criticism. These minor errors might well be removed in a new edition since they detract from the high value of an important contribution toward the solution of one of the major problems of our time.

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*America and the Race for World Dominion.* A. DEMANGEON.  
New York, Doubleday, Page and Company, 1921, xiv,  
234 pp. \$2.00.

This book was first published in France under the title, *Le Déclin de l'Europe*. The translation, by Mr. Arthur Bartlett Maurice, has been exceptionally well done, but the English title is somewhat misleading, the French title being a much more accurate description of the contents of the book. It is true that the author emphasizes that this country is the chief heir to former European greatness, but that is not his leading theme.

This theme, in the author's own words, is "to consider the shifting of wealth that has been one of the vital results of the war, not from the social aspect, but from the broader view of internationalism." Taking this as his point of departure, he goes on to show that beginning with the age of the discoveries Europe gradually imposed her economic control upon the rest of the world. "This European control reached its climax about the beginning of the present century. Her ships carried the products of remote lands, her ports were the markets for exotic commodities; in her banks she gathered the profits of commerce later to direct them to the exploitation of virgin regions; her factories turned out the manufactured articles that she sold everywhere to peoples inadequately equipped; she furnished empty territories with the men and women necessary to colonize them; in a word, she fed the world with the treasures of her money, her strength and her life."

This is all commonplace enough, but the question now is, has not the ascendancy of the world passed from the older civilization to what was formerly unoccupied or backward regions in general, and America in particular? The answer is, it has. First is the matter of financial power. Before the war Europe was a creditor of America, Japan, and of course all the backward regions. Today this debt is paid and besides Europe owes us a sum of money the annual interest on which alone, the author estimates at six hundred and sixty-five millions of dollars. In the meantime Japan has largely paid off her debts to Europe, and together America and Japan have replaced the European countries as the chief creditors of South America and Asia. American and Japanese banking houses have no intention of relinquishing their advantage, but on the other hand are daily strengthening their positions at the expense of European financial concerns. Likewise, sea power and industrial power are going the same route. It is true that the impetus given by the war to these changes is partly halted by the return of peace, but there is no indication that the current has turned or will turn in the other direction.

What the author proves by his arguments based upon undisputed statistics is that imperialism contains within itself the germs of its own eventual destruction. Two things are bound to happen when several imperialistic nations begin the exploitation, conquest or settlement of backward regions. In the first place these powers are almost certain to quarrel among themselves and destroy their own substance in a war for supremacy. In the recent war, for instance, Russia and Germany were completely wrecked as imperialistic powers, and, in spite of mere territorial gains, England, France and Italy were, as M. Demangeon points out, very materially weakened.

But more significant still is the other point—the principal contribution of this book. In spite of the fact that the imperialistic power tries to keep all the important offices, industrial concessions, managerial and technological positions, as well as financial power in the hands of its own nationals, sooner or later the more intelligent and enterprising natives become ambitious to take over all these good things for themselves. This is what has happened in America and Japan. This is the fundamental cause of the present discontent and unrest in Egypt, India and China. South America is impatient of forever remaining in the leading strings of Europe and the United States. It is only a question of time before the natives of Africa and the islands of the sea will feel the same urge.

The logic of M. Demangeon's position is that the advanced imperialistic nations ought to recognize the fact that international wars for control are worse than useless and they should further unite on a policy of general guardianship of the backward countries with the central idea that just so soon as the natives are desirous of going it alone they should be permitted to do so. But Frenchmen are not much given to such moralizing and we have nothing of the sort here; but he does clearly state that the imperialistic game for Europe is pretty well played out and the best thing for France to do, at least, is to spend more of her capital and energy in domestic development and gradually put aside her agelong imperialistic ambitions. This is a bit of advice which every well-wisher of France hopes M. Demangeon's fellow countrymen will follow.

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*The Folly of Nations.* FREDERICK PALMER. New York, Dodd Mead and Company, 1921. 408 pages.

Frederick Palmer has seen war at first hand since 1897, when his career as war correspondent began in the rather old fashioned, glamorous Turko-Grecian struggle. He says he thought it folly at the time. His pictures of the old peasant, trying to get his sheep out of range of the guns, gives us the key idea of the book. This shepherd looked upon war as a sort of "act of God"—something which just came, like earthquakes and pestilences. We get the impression that the author attributes a goodly portion of the responsibility to men—men of the ilk of the pot-bellied, platitudinous Greek Deputy, who stirred up the hornets' nest from a safe distance. If this is so, we have something tangible on which to work—both the Deputy and the simple-minded people who listen to him.

The discussion of the "McAndrew's Epoch"—the imperialistic period which discovered the "white man's burden," made some small wars of organized against unorganized peoples, and paved the way for the tragedy of 1914—is rather tedious reading. In this and the following chapter on "The World's Sore Spots," the author mixes telling accounts of what he saw himself with intelligent but over-long reflections on the significance of these experiences and prosy meandering through ideas evidently derived from books. The disgraceful pillaging and disorder accompanying the Powers' invasion of China to put down